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problems which have arisen in the neurology of higher forms shows that one cannot afford to neglect it.

A second and perhaps less pardonable fault is the absolutely unqualified way in which the neurone theory is accepted and the light manner in which really serious objections to it are passed over. To read the author's presentation of Apáthy's work one would think that this investigator's results were almost in line with the neurone doctrine; but an unbiased comparison shows this not to be true. Surely the statements of Apáthy, if correct, are more serious obstacles to the acceptance of the neurone theory than Barker is willing to admit; and what is perhaps less consoling to an advocate of the theory is that these statements have received no small amount of confirmation at the hands of Bethe.

The letterpress and numerous illustrations are excellent, and the volume is provided with two indices—one for subjects and the other for authors. In the subject index the two kinds of type used in the page numbers refer, we are told, in one case to text and in the other to figure reference; in the author's index two kinds of type are also employed, but, probably through an oversight, no explanation of their use is given.

The defects which the book has are few compared with its excellencies, and we do not hesitate to pronounce it a masterly production of the highest quality of which Americans may justly be proud.

G. H. P.

Neurone Theory.—A very interesting and timely brochure on the neurone doctrine and its opponent has come from the pen of A. Hoche.¹ The author gives a clear statement of the foundations of the theory, and then considers it in the critical light of recent discovery. His conclusions are that the neurone theory in its original form is no longer tenable, and that the fibrillar theory must replace it, so far as the histology of the adult nervous elements is concerned. The nervous elements develop as independent cells, and become secondarily connected by fibrillar growths, though in this later condition they reassert their physiological independence in the various aspects of their metabolism. The histogenesis and physiology of nervous elements, particularly their trophic relations, follow then on the lines laid down by the neurone theory, and in these respects this theory may still be said to be valid.

G. H. P.

¹ Hoche, A. *Die Neuronenlehre und ihre Gegner.* 51 pp. A. Hirschwald, Berlin, 1899.